

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06425 250617Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 AID-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 DOEE-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15
SP-02 CEQ-01 ICAE-00 PA-01 /115 W
-----046357 250620Z /15

O 250550Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1156
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 6425

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENGR, IN
SUBJECT: TARAPUR FUEL STORAGE

1. CONGEN COURTNEY HAS LEARNED FROM DR. SETHNA THAT GE SAYS THAT ITS TEAM MUST POSTPONE UNTIL MID-MAY THE MEETINGS ON THE TARAPUR RE-RACKING WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 24-25.

2. THIS WOULD BE A MOST UNFORTUNATE DELAY ON BOTH TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL GROUNDS, AND I URGE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE THE GE TEAM ARRIVE NO LATER THAN THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY. THE SOONER, THE BETTER.

3. ON THE TECHNICAL SIDE, ACCORDING TO DR. SETHNA, ONE TARAPUR REACTOR IS NOW BEING PREPARED FOR REFUELING. HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO START INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW RACKS AS SOON AS THE REFUELING IS COMPLETED IN LATE JULY. THE NEW RACKS MUST BE IN PLACE BEFORE THE NEXT SCHEDULED REFUELING IN EARLY 1979 IF A SHUT DOWN DUE TO LACK OF STORAGE SPACE IS TO BE AVOIDED. SETHNA DOUBTS THAT THIS SCHEDULE CAN BE MET IF THE GE
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TEAM DELAYS ITS ARRIVAL BEYOND THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY.

4. POLITICALLY, IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT FURTHER DELAY OF XSNM-1060, A DELAY IN THE ARRIVAL OF THE GE TEAM IS CERTAIN TO BE HIGHLIGHTED BY THE INDIAN SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND THE PRESS AS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE USA'S LACK OF COMMITMENT TO MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS IN

THE AREA OF INDO-US NUCLEAR COOPERATION. THIS TROUBLED
AND EMOTIONALLY LADENED AREA OF US-INDIA RELATIONS
DEFINITELY DOES NOT NEED THIS FURTHER IRRITANT AT THIS
TIME.

5. CLINTON BASTIN, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, IS AWARE OF THE
PROBLEM BUT MAY NEED REINFORCEMENT.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STORAGE, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE06425
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780175-1181
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780420/aaaaaqia.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f50549a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2859506
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TARAPUR FUEL STORAGE
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f50549a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014